

## Message Text

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43

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 ARAE-00 FEAE-00 INT-05 SIL-01 LAB-04

COME-00 IO-10 OPR-01 A-01 SY-04 AGR-05 SP-02 AID-05

EB-07 NSC-05 CIEP-01 TRSE-00 SS-15 STR-01 OMB-01

CEA-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-01 INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00

PA-01 PRS-01 USIA-06 SAM-01 /102 W

----- 000229

P R 211720Z FEB 75

FM AMEMBASSY PORT OF SPAIN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 7420

INFO AMEMBASSY BRIDGETOWN

AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN

AMEMBASSY CARACAS

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE PORT OF SPAIN 0420

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ELAB PINT ENRG TD

SUBJECT: NO PROGRESS IN TEXACO LABOR NEGOTIATIONS

REF: POS 394

1. JUMPING THE GUN ON IIS SEVEN-DAY ULTIMATUM (WHICH DID NOT EXPIRE UNTIL NEXT WEEK), THE OILFIELD WORKERS TRADE UNION (OWTU) NOTIFIED TEXACO TRINIDAD ON FEBRUARY 20 THAT THE UNION WAS RAISING ITS WAGE INCREASE DEMAND FROM 80 PERCENT TO 147 PERCENT. IN A LETTER TO THE COMPANY, OWTU LEADER GEORGE WEEKES CITED THE HIGH LEVEL OF PROFITS EARNED BY TEXACO LAST YEAR, THE LARGE PAY RAISES WHICH THE COMPANY'S EXECUTIVES HAD GIVEN THEMSELVES, AND THE FAILURE OF THE GOTT TO LEVY THE NECESSARY TAXES AGAINST TEXACO AS JUSTIFICATION FOR THE UNION'S NEW DEMAND. AT THE SAME TIME OFFICIALS OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOR WERE REPORTED TO HAVE BEGUN PREPARING DOCUMENTATION TO DECLARE THE DISPUTE "UNRESOLVED" UNDER LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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THE INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS ACT SHOULD THAT BECOME NECESSARY.

2. AT THE TEXACO REFINERY AT POINTE-A-PIERRE THE WORK FORCE IS BACK TO NORMAL LEVELS BUT MANY PARTS OF THE REFINERY HAVE NOT RESUMED PRODUCTION FOLLOWING THE NEAR-COMPLETE SHUT-DOWN ON FEBRUARY 18. THE RESUMPTION OF OPERATIONS IS BEING HAMPERED BY THE CONTINUING GO-SLOW BY THE WORKERS AND BY COMPLETELY FULL PRODUCT STORAGE TANKS. ACCORDING TO NEWSPAPER REPORTS, FOURTEEN TANKERS ARE WAITING OFFSHORE TO EITHER UNLOAD CRUDE OR LOAD PRODUCT BUT ARE NOT BEING ALLOWED TO DOCK BECAUSE OF THE GO-SLOW. DISRUPTIONS IN DELIVERIES TO TANK WAGONS AT THE TEXACO BOND HAVE CAUSED SHORTAGES AT TEXACO FILLING STATIONS IN PORT OF SPAIN AND AT PIARCO AIRPORT.

3. COMMENT: UNDER THE INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS ACT, THE MINISTER OF LABOR HAS UNTIL FEBRUARY 28 (14 DAYS AFTER HE INTERVENED IN THE NEGOTIATIONS) TO RESOLVE THE SITUATION OR TO DECLARE IT "UNRESOLVED." IF ACTUALLY ISSUED, THE DECLARATION GIVES THE PARTIES THE LEGAL RIGHT TO DECLARE A STRIKE OR LOCK-OUT, BUT ONLY WITHIN THE FOLLOWING SEVEN DAYS. THEY MAY ALSO, BY MUTUAL CONSENT, REFER THE MATTER TO THE INDUSTRIAL COURT. WE BELIEVE IT UNLIKELY THAT THE GOVERNMENT WILL PRECIPITATE A CRISIS BEFORE PRIME MINISTER WILLIAMS RETURNS FROM THE U.S.. IT APPEARS MORE AND MORE LIKELY, HOWEVER, THAT FORCEFUL ACTION BY THE GOVERNMENT WILL BE REQUIRED TO BRING ABOUT A RESOLUTION.  
RICH

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** LABOR UNIONS, LABOR ARBITRATION, NEGOTIATIONS, LABOR OBJECTIVES  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 21 FEB 1975  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
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**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
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**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
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**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
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**Status:** NATIVE  
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**TAGS:** ELAB, PINT, ENRG, TD, TEXACO, OWTU  
**To:** STATE  
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